

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 19**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Smyth**

February 4, 2009

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 19—Relative to Spay Day USA 2009.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 19, as introduced, Smyth. Spaying and neutering.

This measure would declare February 24, 2009, to be Spay Day USA 2009, and would request that Californians observe that day by having their dogs or cats spayed or neutered and by contributing to organizations that provide spay and neuter services.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, More than one-half of one million dogs and cats  
2 were euthanized by animal shelters in California during 2007, the  
3 most recent year for which statewide data is available; and  
4 WHEREAS, In most instances these dogs and cats are young,  
5 healthy, and friendly animals that are euthanized simply because  
6 there are not enough good homes for them; and  
7 WHEREAS, An additional unknown number of animals die  
8 each year due to abandonment, neglect, abuse, starvation, or  
9 cruelty; and  
10 WHEREAS, The cost to government and nonprofit agencies of  
11 handling and euthanizing discarded animals exceeds one-quarter  
12 of one billion dollars per year; and

1 WHEREAS, The spaying or neutering of dogs and cats helps  
2 solve this tragic and costly problem by reducing the number of  
3 dogs and cats that end up in shelters; and

4 WHEREAS, It is the policy of the State of California that animal  
5 shelters should aggressively promote spay and neuter programs to  
6 reduce pet overpopulation; and

7 WHEREAS, Californians can contribute to this effort by spaying  
8 or neutering their own companion animals and by supporting  
9 programs in their communities that offer accessible spay and neuter  
10 services; and

11 WHEREAS, Veterinarians, humane societies, animal control  
12 agencies, and national and local animal welfare organizations will  
13 join together to advocate the spaying or neutering of dogs and cats  
14 on “Spay Day USA 2009,” an annual campaign of the Humane  
15 Society of the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, In particular, the Sacramento area is celebrating  
17 its 10th anniversary as a national leader in the coordination of Spay  
18 Day USA events designed to meet the needs of low-income  
19 families, and this year will reach a total of 5,000 dogs and cats  
20 spayed or neutered as part of Spay Day USA events; now,  
21 therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California  
24 declares February 24, 2009, to be Spay Day USA 2009 and requests  
25 Californians to observe the day by having their dogs or cats spayed  
26 or neutered and by contributing to charitable organizations that  
27 provide spay and neuter services; and the legislature further  
28 requests that California veterinarians work with animal shelters  
29 and rescue groups to provide accessible spay and neuter services;  
30 and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
32 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.